

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

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1. (currently amended) A game machine, in which a plurality of racing members, each having a member name, participate in a plurality of races taken place therein, comprising:

a name assigner, which ~~assigns~~ is operable to assign a player name, which is initially registered by a game player, to an associated racing member ~~as a part of the member name thereof~~; and

a special race establisher, which ~~establishes~~ is operable to establish a special race having a race name as a selected one of the ~~plural~~ races, and ~~assigns~~ is operable to assign the pre-registered ~~one~~ player name to the special races ~~as a part of the race name thereof~~, when in a case where the a-racing member to which the ~~one~~ pre-registered player name is assigned has a race record better than race records of another racing members.

2. (currently amended) The game machine as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a race record evaluator, which ~~evaluates~~ is operable to evaluate race records of the respective racing members in accordance with race results in a predetermined time period.

3. (currently amended) The game machine as set forth in claim 2, wherein:  
the race record evaluator ~~displays~~ is operable to display a ranking table in which the racing members are ranked in accordance with the race results; and

wherein the special race establisher ~~determines~~ is operable to display the race name of the special race based on the name of a racing member first-ranked in the ranking table.

4. (currently amended) The horse racing game machine as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

~~the race is a horse races;~~

the racing members are miniature racehorses; and  
the race record includes the number of prizes acquired by each miniature racehorse.

5. (currently amended) A method of running a racing game in which a plurality of racing members, each having a member name, participate in a plurality of races taken place therein, comprising ~~the~~ steps of:

assigning a player name, which is initially registered by a game player to an associated racing member ~~as a part of the member name thereof~~;

establishing a special race having a race name as selected one of the ~~plural~~ races; and

assigning ~~one~~ the pre-registered player name to the special race ~~as a part of the race name thereof, when in a case where the~~ a-racing member to which the ~~one~~ pre-registered player name is assigned has a race record better than race records of another racing members.

A1 6. (currently amended) The game running method as set forth in claim 5, ~~wherein~~ further comprising a step of evaluating race records of the respective racing members are evaluated in accordance with race results in a predetermined time period.

7. (currently amended) The game running method as set forth in claim 6, ~~wherein~~ further comprising steps of:

displaying a ranking table in which the racing members are ranked in accordance with the race results ~~is displayed~~; and

determining the race name of the special race based on the name of a racing member first-ranked in the ranking table.

8. (currently amended) The game running method as set forth in claim 5, wherein ~~the race is a horse races~~;

the racing members are miniature racehorses; and

the race record includes the number of prizes acquired by each miniature racehorse.